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Copyright Carl Heilman

Editor: Harvey Leidy

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From the Desk of Ralph Bentley, Supervisor....

- ♦ **Hurricane Sandy-** *Our town has worked to provide much-needed supplies and relief to those folks who were impacted by Hurricane Sandy. For example, at St. Paul's Brant Lake — one of five small churches under the logo of the Adirondack Mission — announced the need to collect at this time, hats, scarves, gloves and sweaters to be taken to NYC (LI) for distribution on or before Thanksgiving. According to Doug Paton, "this little church does much and never asks for 'thanks;' and is always open if anyone cares to donate things this week and next."*
- ♦ **Starbuckville Dam, East Schroon River Road** — *The last payment of \$30,671 of \$297, 286 in the capital budget will be made next May, 2013, on the new Starbuckville Dam which eliminated what was referred to as the "drowning machine."*
- ♦ **2013 Town Budget** - *at the open meeting and public hearing on November 1st, the preliminary 2013 budget, as amended, was adopted. This represents a slight increase in the Town taxes of approximately \$.03/thousand. On \$100,000 this represents \$3.00.*

I look forward to working with you as we move forward on building on the successes accomplished this year to make both Adirondack and Brant Lake a desirable unspoiled jewel of the Adirondacks in which to work and live.

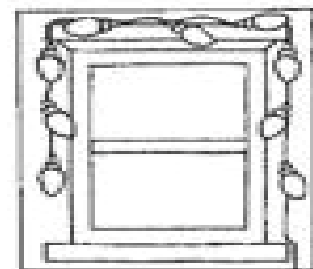
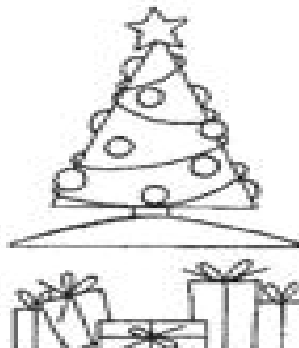
On behalf of the town administration, may your holiday season be filled with joy, success and happiness!

Thank you.

Ralph W. Bentley



Copies of the newsletter are available at Town Hall, in the public libraries of Brant Lake, Adirondack hamlets, and on line at our web site: www.horiconny.gov.



Brant Lake Public Boat Launch Cooperative Agreement with DEC



Some background:

There are two public boat launches in the Town of Horicon – both operated by NYS Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC): the Schroon Lake South Boat Launch – on land owned by the State; and the Brant Lake Boat Launch – on land owned by the Town of Horicon – under a 25-year cooperative agreement from our Town to DEC which will be up for renewal with notice to be given to DEC next May, 2013 on whether or not to renew this agreement under the same terms or different terms, that may be more advantageous to our community.

As we know, having a public boat launch on wonderful Brant Lake listed in New York State literature distributed throughout the US and Canada is good for tourism. Under the present terms the boat launch is open to everyone.

Back in the 1980's, the DEC installed a concrete boat ramp and placed a small dock parallel to the ramp. Our Town is responsible for all maintenance, including all legal liability, except where we recently got DEC to pay for maintaining the two 'Porta Johns.' The unpaved parking area currently has limited spaces: 8 fitting boat trailers and 3 fitting only a car or pick-up truck.

Also of importance, is being able to continue working to control aquatic invasive species which is currently the Town's responsibility – the Town bears the cost of boat launch inspections including staffing by on-site stewards which is a vital year-after-year, must-do obligation to conserve and protect water quality from aquatic species such as Eurasian milfoil, zebra mussels, Asian Clams; and recently discovered in nearby waters – spiny water flea.

Input from Horicon residents and local businesses that depend on Brant Lake is welcome. Your responses can help our Town determine how best to proceed early next year in discussions with DEC, that specifically may lead to commitments on enhancements to the current cooperative agreement terms.

If you have a moment, please tell me what you think - by mailing a note to Ralph Bentley, P.O. Box 90, Brant Lake, NY 12815 or faxing to 494-7721.

Brant Lake Water Quality Stewardship Update for 2012

By Luc Aalman

The news about Eurasian watermilfoil (EWM) control, and invasive species, in general, in Brant Lake is very good, but when looking at the county and state level, the outlook is not as bright. The rise in numbers of invasive species presents a tremendous challenge. Lake Champlain, for example, has 149 reported invasive species. Hudson River has 122. Saratoga Lake has 28 and Lake George has 12. Even though our situation in Brant Lake is under control for this past season, we can lose the battle if we don't continue to remain vigilant and active on two fronts:

- 1) We need to keep our guard up on boats importing invasives from other lakes, especially now that Lake George has reported a larger number of Asian Clam infestation locations.
- 2) We need to stay on top of the milfoil control in our own lakes: this season Brant Lake started off very well, but ended with our discovery of a new bed.

While the Brant Lake Association has been active in milfoil control for over a decade, we only got effective after our highly successful fundraiser in 2009. We hired Aquatic Invasive Management (AIM) and began the large scale hand harvesting of milfoil in the following years.

We also placed mats on the densest infested areas. The power of mat laying is very evident. We literally had a forest of milfoil at Sunset Cove in 2008. We placed mats there and now, we have a variety of new native plant re-growth, one year after removal of mats and weeding of milfoil.

- ◆ The number of bags of milfoil removed has shrunk from more than 300 in previous years to only 35 this year, including 30 bags of the newly discovered bed.
- ◆ We have reduced the number of AIM man-hours (professional divers) from more than 2500 to about 150 hrs, which we will most likely have to maintain for the foreseeable future.
- ◆ The importance of volunteer efforts in removing mats and assisting both the professional and volunteer divers from Brant Lake will continue unabated, to include hand harvesting on summer weekends for 2013.

Clearly our efforts have been successful. However, nature can be unpredictable; and if we continue to have “warm winters” with forecasted extreme variations in temperature which can provide the environment for accelerated emergent growth of milfoil, we will need to be forever vigilant. That is why monitoring our lake is so crucial. Given the expected ongoing annual expenses, some form of continued government assistance, whether at the town, county or state level will be essential.



Our volunteer divers are working to control milfoil.



Luc Aalmans with his volunteer diving team

Adirondack Hamlet Local News!

By Jane Smith

Eurasian Watermilfoil Management Summit: Lessons Learned from the Adirondack Region

On August 16, the Adirondack Lake Alliance (ALA) in conjunction with the Adirondack Park Invasive Plant Program (APIPP) and the Lake Champlain Lake George Regional Planning Board hosted the Adirondacks' first ever conference on invasive milfoil. The all-day conference was held at the Horicon Town Hall with Horicon's two lake associations: ESSLA and the Brant Lake Association, providing lunch and refreshments. The success of the conference was apparent with a capacity crowd of nearly 100 interested folks and seminar speakers from DEC, APIPP, and other lake area associations.

The ALA took shape in 2008 when some ESSLA board members felt there was a real need to connect the lake communities in the Adirondacks who share similar challenges and commitments to protect and preserve our lakes. The Alliance has now become a well-respected group representing of eleven area lakes and ponds.

The Pearl

This fall we at ESSLA rolled out our first edition newsletter and gave it a meaningful title, “The Pearl.” Editors Stephen Ehlers, Vince Blando of Adirondack and Gretchen Marcell of the Town of Schroon helped coordinate the submission of articles of interest with the help of newsletter publisher, Nancy Austin. Go to our website: www.essla.org to find out how it got its name, but also what we've been doing. Jane Smith, President of ESSLA, states in the newsletter her vision for the future, which among others, is “keeping the momentum going by raising awareness about aquatic invasive species, stormwater, septic and shoreline issues, and working to resolve them.”

Adirondack Hamlet.... Continued

Adirondack Community Center

A group of volunteers from the Town of Horicon rolled up their sleeves to donate their time, labor, materials and money to help make the Old Schoolhouse in Adirondack more user-friendly. There now is a very nice functioning kitchen with plans to work closely with the Town Board to achieve a few more upgrades. We received grants from ACT as well as a large monetary donation, cabinets and appliances and a donation from Capital District Insurance Community of Albany. Additional support came from proceeds from the annual Adirondack Garage Sale, donations from Porter Estates Homeowners Association, a hot water heater from a Town employee as well as countless hours of labor and materials from residents of Adirondack and Brant Lake. Our hope is to provide a space to hold community functions for the Town of Horicon. In addition to extended and better usage of this grand old building, the biggest reward was the pride of community spirit and collaboration by all stakeholders.

Welcome to Adirondack

The “Welcome to Adirondacks” sign on East Shore Drive needed some sprucing up. Again, a group of volunteers from both Adirondack and Brant Lake, in collaboration with Matt Simpson and Frank Hill of the Town Board, took on the task prior to the Adirondack Marathon which brought hundreds of folks into our hamlet. Next spring, with the help of folks from Adirondack Lodges, we plan to complete landscaping around the sign.

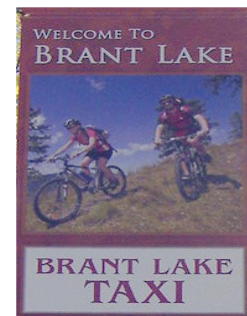
Tri-Lakes Business Alliance — A Progress Report Update



Tri-Lakes Business Alliance

www.wix.com/northwarren/tri-lakes-business-alliance

To improve the quality of life and promote economic prosperity in Northern Warren County through enhanced infrastructure, expanded tourism, and beautification of our economic centers.



Article contributed by Cindy Mead, Gallo Realty

The Tri-Lakes Business Alliance was formed in December 2011, made up of business owners, interested community members and town officials of the adjacent towns of Chester, Horicon (Brant Lake, Adirondack hamlets) and Pottersville, for the purpose of improving the conditions of our town — to enhance the recreational and economic value that helps bring people together to savor the village experience.

Meetings are held every other Friday at 9AM at the Panther Mountain Inn in Chestertown. Simple rules apply: (1) One person speaks at a time; (2) Meetings last for only 1 hour. Attendance is not mandatory and all are welcomed.

Accomplishments to-date Include:

- ◆ Chestertown Farmers Market- Held at the front lawn of the Chester Municipal Center on Wednesday from the end of June until mid-October, from 10:00AM till 1:00PM. This is a producer's-only market with all goods produced by local farmers/vendors. Over 20 vendors participated.
- ◆ Pole Banners — part of a beautification project that is on-going. No doubt you've seen the attractive colorful banners, purchased by local businesses that help tie the villages and hamlets together and improve the general curb appeal.
- ◆ Color brochures describing our area and list of amenities will be distributed to Global Foundries and other Saratoga businesses to promote the enjoyable life style in our Tri-Lakes area.

Library News

Did you know that if you own an e-reader, and with a library card, you can download **free e-books** from the SALS website? Stop in the library, obtain a card and Linda Hoyt will gladly give you information.

<http://research.sals.edu/brl>
<http://pac.sals.edu/polaris/library/userdef/econtent.aspx?ctx=52.1033.0.0.6>

The Library Trustees have put together a survey asking for input to help us serve our community better. You can pick up a copy at either the Library or Town Hall. Fill it out and drop it off at the library or mail it in.

The Library worked with North Warren Central School to put together a list of educational websites for your students to access while at the library. The list is available at the library.

The Friends of the Library plans to incorporate into next Summer's Reading Program a special focus on Stopping Bullying.

Thanks to all who attended Trish Marki's Owl Program. Trish is from the Wildlife Institute of Eastern New York. It was well attended and indicates how important these types of library-sponsored educational programs are, especially for our children.

If you wish to be notified of our plans for programs next year, please sign up in the library or pick up a flyer when they become available at the library.

Mark your
Calendars ✓



Town of Horicon Historical Society Calendar News Updates

February 2013	Cabin Fever Party (date to be set)
June 29th 2013	Museum Open House with Books & Bargain Sales 9AM-3PM
Historical Society meetings are held the 3 rd Monday of the month beginning at 7PM. All interested residents are encouraged to join.	

Notes:

- ✓ The 4th grade classes from North Warren Central School visited the Museum on October 5th. The students were very well behaved and were quite interested in our local history.
- ✓ Sales benefiting the Adirondack Church Museum's Restoration Project will begin again Memorial Day weekend in 2013. Doations will be accepted until then by calling Edna Trumbull at 518-494-2270. After Memorial Day, donations will continue to be accepted on an ongoing basis throughout the summer.

New Town Web Site Look : <http://www.horiconny.gov>

It's now easier to navigate the Town's website to access important information such as meeting minutes, forms, notices, links, etc. There is more detailed hot link information under the various tabs. If you have any suggestions for the website please let us know!

Also, please note the new Town E-mail addresses as listed below:

Town Supervisor supervisor@horiconny.gov; Councilmen: Frank Hill fhill@horiconny.gov, Ken Higgins khiggins@horiconny.gov, Bob Olson rolson@horiconny.gov, Matt Simpson msimpson@horiconny.gov; townclerk@horiconny.gov; zoningplanning@horiconny.gov; assessor@horiconny.gov; court@horiconny.gov; highway@horiconny.gov; and horiconday@horiconny.gov.

From the Assessor's Office: A letter was mailed out in November, 2012 to all property owners from Paul Maniacek, Town Assessor. Reproduced in part is some key information of interest:

Please note The Horicon Town Board and Warren County Board of Supervisors have increased the tax exemption for (aged) persons 65 years and older with an income of less than \$32,400. If you have any questions as what to file with us, please call at (518) 494-4198 and we will be glad to walk you through this process. Our office hours are Monday through Thursday, 10:00AM til 2.:00PM.

-----Fold for mailing-----

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